

**GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF
SPEECH LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY AND AUDIOLOGY
Professional Licensing Boards
Board Meeting Minutes
237 Coliseum Drive
Macon, GA 31217
April 8, 2013
10:00 a.m.**

Board Members Present:

Holly Kaplan, President
Erica Ann Chatelain
Melanie Gilley
Lauren Wright, Consumer Member
Miranda Pritcher-Ross

Staff Present:

Janet Wray, Board Attorney
Tanja Battle, Executive Director
Tamara Elliott, Board Support Specialist

Holly Kaplan established that a quorum was present and called the meeting to order at 10:09 a.m.

Open Session

Approval of minutes from the January 14, 2013 Board Meeting

Lauren Wright made a motion to approve minutes from the January 14, 2013 Board meeting. Erica Chatelain seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

Licenses to Ratify January 9, 2013-March 29, 2013

Melanie Gilley made a motion to ratify the licenses issued from January 9, 2013 through March 29, 2013. Erica Chatelain seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

Correspondence from Janine Wright

Erica Chatelain made a motion to send a correspondence notifying Ms. Wright that she is not permitted to renew her license this time because it has been revoked. Melanie Gilley seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

Correspondence from Karen Whitefield

The Board requests that Karen Whitefield submit a rule waiver petition.

Correspondence from Morgan Bennett

Ms. Bennett asked that the Board consider revisiting the Reinstatement requirements especially as they relate to the examination requirement for applicants who have been actively practicing in

other states. Miranda Pritcher-Ross will work on developing language to amend Board Rule 609-8-.03 and will present such to the Board at a future meeting.

Correspondence from NCSB

The Board reviewed correspondence from the National Council of State Boards of Examiners for Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology which discussed the benefits of membership. The Board accepted this as information.

Correspondence from Trudy Whitehead

The Board reviewed correspondence from Ms. Whitehead requesting an extension of her PCE temporary license. The Board requested that Trudy Whitehead submit a rule waiver petition regarding such.

Discussion: Audiologist Assistant Supervisor Change

The Board's support staff will create a form that allows assistants to submit a change in supervisor to the Board. This will be presented to the Board at a future meeting.

Discussion: Clinical Fellows and Billing Medicaid

The Georgia Speech-Language and Hearing Association submitted a correspondence to the Board to draw attention to the matter of Clinical Fellows and the restrictions regarding Medicaid billing. The Board accepted this as information.

Discussion: DUI Policy

Lauren Wright made a motion to adopt the following language regarding DUIs as policy. Erica Chatelain seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

Applications received that report only one (1) DUI within the last three (3) years, and verified by a GCIC report that this is the only criminal activity (GCIC to be run by Enforcement), can be approved administratively. The administrative processing of these licenses means that the Board staff has reviewed the documents and approved licensure based upon the laws, rules and board policies that pertain to that specific type of licensure. These administratively issued licenses will be considered for a vote to ratify at the next regularly scheduled board meeting.

Discussion: CE Approval Requests

The Board reviewed Shirley Sell's Ipad Innovations CE Request and concurs with the initial recommendation to deny credit for the portion of the course slated from 8:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.

The remaining courses will be reviewed by Erica Chatelain.

Corinne Nordin Rule Waiver Request

Erica Chatelain made a motion to grant the waiver. Melanie Gilley seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

Jennie Lombardo Rule Variance Request

Melanie Gilley made a motion to grant the waiver. Miranda Pritcher-Ross seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

Executive Director's Open Session – Ms. Tanja D. Battle

Melanie Gilley made a motion to post Rule 609-7-.01 Continuing Professional Education Requirements. Erica Chatelain seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion. The language reads as follows:

609-7-.01 Continuing Professional Education Requirements.

- (1) The purpose of continuing education is to maintain and enhance the professional competency of speech-language pathologists and audiologists licensed to practice in Georgia for the protection of the health and welfare of the people of the State of Georgia.
- (2) A continuing education unit (CEU) is defined as ten (10) clock hours of continuing professional education. CEU hours may not be carried over from one licensure biennium to the next.
- (3) In order to renew a license, the licensee must obtain a minimum of 2.0 CEUs (20 clock hours) during each biennium period of licensure.
- (4) Not more than .8-10 CEUs (8 10 clock hours) can be acquired in any one 24 hour period.
- (5) Individuals who hold licenses in both Speech-Language Pathology and in Audiology shall be required to complete a minimum of 2.0 CEUs in Speech-Language Pathology and 2.0 CEUs in Audiology.
- (6) CEU requirements for newly approved license holders will be pro-rated during the first biennium licensure period as follows:
 - (a) Licensees whose applications are approved during the first six (6) months of the biennium will be required to accrue two (2) CEUs.
 - (b) Licensees approved during the second six (6) months of the biennium will be required to accrue one and one half (1 ½) CEUs.
 - (c) Licensees approved during the third six months of the biennium will be required to accrue one (1) CEU.
 - (d) Licensees approved during the final six (6) months are not required to accrue CEUs until the following licensure biennium.
- (7) CEU hours must be in educational experiences directly related to the scope of practice of the licensee, and must be designed to increase the competence of the licensee in the area of licensure. Examples of activities that may provide CEU hours include:
 - (a) Scientific and educational lectures, workshops, or seminars;
 - (b) College courses taken for credit or through official audit:
 1. College course credit shall be deemed to be equivalent to CEUs as follows: One Semester Hour = 1.5 CEUs; One Trimester Hour = 1.3 CEUs; One Quarter Hour = 1.0 CEU.
 - (c) Presentations by licensees: 0.5 CEUs (5 clock hours) will be awarded for the presentation of any lecture, workshop or seminar. A licensee may only receive credit for one presentation per biennium.
 - (d) Audio and video conferences, online courses, and teleconferences; and self-study courses accompanied by an examination by the CEU provider.
 - (e) Praxis Examination in the area of licensure.
 1. Two (2.0) CEUs will be awarded for successful completion of the Praxis with a score of 650. Successful completion of this examination during the biennium will satisfy all CEU requirements for the license during that biennium.

2. The Board approved national examination results that are used in order to receive a license may not be used again for the renewal of that license.
3. A person who is licensed in both Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology must pass tests in both Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology to meet all continuing education requirements. If the licensee passes the examination in only one area, s/he must obtain 2.0 additional CEUs in the area for which the examination was not passed.
 - (f) Not more than two (.2) CEUs of the required twenty (2.0) per biennium will be awarded for courses in the area(s) of ethics, record-keeping, documentation, Georgia laws and rules, Medicaid regulations and/or Medicare regulations.
 - (8) Documentation of CEUs:
 - (a) Each licensee shall maintain for three (3) years their own record of the CEU activities that they completed. The Board will not maintain CEU files for licensees.
 - (b) Licensees shall retain documentation of their continuing education activities and shall not send them to the Board Office unless the Board requests the licensee to do so.
 - (c) Licensees shall attest on their biennial licensure renewal application that they have satisfied the CEU requirements as set out above.
 - (d) False attestation of satisfaction of CEU requirements on a renewal application shall subject the licensee to disciplinary actions, including revocation.
 - (9) Method of Auditing CEU's:
 - (a) The Board will audit a random fixed percentage of applications. Licensees who are audited will be required to document the CEU activities. Required documentation is a certificate or proof of attendance which includes the sponsoring agency, the licensee's name, the date of the activity, the length of the session, and either the signature of a representative from the sponsoring agency or official certification by the sponsoring agency. A description of the CEU activity may be required if the title of the activity does not clearly state the content of the CEU activity. If the licensee attends a multi-session CEU activity, as in a state or national convention or meeting, additional required information includes a specific listing of each session, the length of each session, and a description of each session if the title does not clearly state the content of the session.
 - (b) Current members of the Board, who are licensees of the Board, shall be audited for each biennium that they serve on the Board.
 - (c) Delinquent renewals shall be subject to the CEU audit for that biennium.

Melanie Gilley made a motion to accept the Economic Impact Statement. Erica Chatelain seconded and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion. The language reads as follows:

The Board voted that the formulation and adoption of these rules does not impose excessive regulatory cost on any licensee and any cost to comply with the proposed rule cannot be reduced by a less expensive alternative that fully accomplishes the objectives of O.C.G.A. §§ 43-1-19, 43-1-25, 43-44-3, 43-44-6, 43-44-8 and 43-44-11. Additionally, the Board voted that it is not legal or feasible to meet the objectives of O.C.G.A. §§ 43-1-19, 43-1-25, 43-44-3, 43-44-6, 43-44-8 and 43-44-11 to adopt or implement differing actions for businesses as listed at O.C.G.A. §§50-13-4(3)(A), (B), (C) and (D). The formulation and adoption of these rules will impact every licensee in the same manner and each licensee is independently licensed, owned and operated and dominant in the field of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology.

Tanja Battle discussed the Interested Parties List. It is now necessary for individuals who want to be on the IP List to subscribe via the Board's website. In an effort not to miss notifying any interested parties, notices regarding rules will be sent to all licensees until it is determined that sufficient time has been given to individuals to subscribe. This means that for the first two to three rules posted after the change to the IP process, all licensees will get notification.

Melanie Gilley made the motion, Lauren Wright seconded and the Board voted to enter into **Executive Session** in accordance with O.C.G.A. §43-1-19(h)(2) and §43-1-2(k) to deliberate and to receive information on applications, investigative reports and the Assistant Attorney General's report. Voting in favor of the motion were Holly Kaplan, Erica Ann Chatelain, Melanie Gilley, Lauren Wright, and Miranda Pritcher-Ross.

Executive Session

The Board discussed the following:

Applications

1. C.E.B.
2. C.B.T.
3. K.A.T.
4. L.A.S.
5. S.A.G.
6. J.B.S.
7. C.A.J.
8. T.M.J.

Cognizant's Report- Amy Gatch

SLPA130003
SLPA130004
SLPA130009
SLPA130010
SLPA130011

Open Session

VOTE:

Melanie Gilley made a motion, Erica Chatelain seconded, and the Board voted unanimously to accept the following recommendations based on deliberations in Executive Session:

Applications

- | | |
|-----------|--|
| 1. C.E.B. | Approve |
| 2. C.B.T. | Approve based upon receipt of additional information |
| 3. K.A.T. | Table pending receipt of acceptable CE |
| 4. L.A.S. | Approve upon receipt of additional information |
| 5. S.A.G. | Table pending receipt of acceptable CE |

6. J.B.S. Approve pending additional information
7. C.A.J. Must submit a rule waiver petition
8. T.M.J. Approve

Erica Chatelain made a motion, Lauren Wright seconded, and the Board voted unanimously to accept the following recommendations based on deliberations in Executive Session:

Cognizant's Report- Amy Gatch

- SLPA130003 Close, No Action
- SLPA130004 Close, No Action
- SLPA130009 Close, No Action
- SLPA130010 Close, No Action
- SLPA130011 Request Additional Information

No more business was discussed and the meeting adjourned at 12:05 p.m.

The next Speech Language Pathology & Audiology Board meeting will be on Monday, June 10, 2013 at 10:00 a.m. at the Office of the Professional Licensing Boards, 237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, Georgia 31217.